(c) Various official and non-official bodies in and outside the country regularly publicise the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the constitutional and other rights of its citizens. Representatives of news agencies and other media organizations are also kept briefed on the subject on a regular basis.

Supply of arms to Pakistan by US

268. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether US has been supplying arms to Pakistan during the last one year in the name of fighting terrorism;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether India has noticed that these arms have been used by Pakistani militants against India;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether India has brought this to the notice of US Government; and

(f) if so, the US response in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes. During the past year, the United States has cleared a number of defence items for sale to Pakistan in the context of Pakistan's involvement in the U.S. led Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. Major items reportedly include Aerostat L-88 radar system and spares (valued at US$155 million), 6 used 130-C aircraft with engine upgrades (valued at US$75 million), Cobra helicopter gunships (valued at US$73 million) and spare parts and components for existing F-16 aircrafts.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Government has conveyed to the United States that it must remains conscious of the impact of U.S.- Pakistan military relations on India's security interests. The United States has expressed understanding for our concerns and has also conveyed that it is not considering sales of defence equipment such F-16 aircrafts to Pakistan.